MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
12 July 1972

AM
10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ADMINISTRATION

1. Dates of Next Meetings: 16 August 1972
20 September 1972
18 October 1972

2. Approval of Minutes of May 1972 Meeting.

3. Joint Committee on Landmarks

Proposed By-Laws for Landmarks Committee

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

1. General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service

Bicentennial Exhibition Center, Dept. of Commerce - Proposed Design

2. Smithsonian Institution, National Zoological Park

Master Plan - Proposed Design

3. D.C. Redevelopment Land Agency

Brookland Enterprises Restaurant, Maine Avenue, S.W. - Revised Design

4. D.C. Government, Department of General Services

a. Kenilworth Recreation Center - Proposed Design

b. Washington Technical Institute - Master Plan and Phase I Structures

5. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

First United States International Transportation Exposition (Transpo 72) Commemorative Medal - Proposed Design

6. Department of the Army

Auto Repair Shop, Fort Myer - Proposed Design

7. *Department of the Navy*

Chapel, Bolling-Anacostia Air Force Base - Proposed Design

8. *Department of Defense, The National War College*

Replacement of Air Force Memorial, Esplanade, National War College, Fort McNair

9. *D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development*

Shipstead-Luce Act

a. *Appendix 1*

b. *S.L. 72-48, 2700-2715 Unicorn Lane, N.W., Two groups of 13 attached houses - Proposed Design*

Old Georgetown Act

a. *O.G. 72-173, 1010-1015 Wisc. Ave., N.W., 8 story brick and concrete bldg. - Proposed Design*

b. *Appendix 2*

10. *D.C. Zoning Commission*

Draft amendments to Sign Regulations, D.C. Zoning Commission

12:30 *LUNCH*

INTERVIEWS

2:00 1. *General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service*

Bicentennial Exhibition Center, Dept. of Commerce - Proposed Design

2:35 2. *Smithsonian Institution, National Zoological Park*

Master Plan - Proposed Design

3:00 3. *D.C. Redevelopment Land Agency*

Brookland Enterprises Restaurant, Maine Avenue, S.W. - Revised Design

3:15 4. *D.C. Government, Department of General Services*

a. *Kenilworth Recreation Center - Proposed Design*

b. *Washington Technical Institute - Master Plan and Phase I Structures*

3:30 5. *Department of the Army*

Auto Repair Shop, Ft. Myer - Proposed Design

3:45 6. *Department of the Navy*

Chapel, Bolling-Anacostia Air Force Base - Proposed Design

4:00 7. *D.C. Government, Department of Economic Development*

a. *OG 72-173, 1010-1016 Wisc. Ave., N.W. 8 story brick and concrete bldg. - Proposed Design*

b. *SL 72-48, 2700-2715 Unicorn Lane, N.W., Two groups of 13 attached houses - Proposed Design*

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

12 July, 1972

Meeting convened at 10.00 a.m. at the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present:	Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman Hon. Nicolas Arroyo Hon. Gordon Bunshaft Hon. Kevin Roche Hon. Cloethiel Woodard Smith Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.
Staff Present:	Charles H. Atherton, Secretary Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary William Bogan Jeffery Carson Sibley Jennings Marylyn Shaw Lynda Smith
National Capital Planning Commission Staff Representative Present:	David McKinnon

I. ADMINISTRATION

a. Dates of the next meeting, the Commission agreed that the next meeting would be the 20th September, 1972, since there did not appear to be sufficient material coming to plan an August meeting. The following meeting would be October 18th.

b. Approval of the minutes of May, 1972. The Commission approved the minutes as written with several corrections submitted by the Chairman. Mr. Atherton stated that these would be appended to the minutes prior to their becoming a part of the permanent record.

c. Joint Committee on Landmarks. By-Laws. The Secretary referred to copies of the proposed by-laws of the Joint Committee on Landmarks and stated that this was an effort to regulate and organize the administrative functions of the existing Landmarks Committee, jointly founded by the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission in 1964. The Committee is partly funded by the City Government, the Planning Commission and the National Park Service. It has become the official body appointed by the District of Columbia to contribute recommendations to the National Register (Department of Interior). Thus, it is the only functioning group evaluating and listing official historic structure and places in the District of Columbia. Because the Commission of Fine Arts was charged by Congress with administering the Old Georgetown Act and conducting certain surveys, the Commission has retained an active interest in the Committee.

Primary logistical support has been carried by the National Capital Planning Commission, which has the statutory obligation to review projects in light of an official list of landmarks. The Secretary described various functional aspects of the Committee operation and its previous relationship with the Commission of Fine Arts. Though several of the members questioned the propriety of Commission involvement, the Chairman stated that the Commission's responsibility to the appearance of Washington includes a great number of historic and architecturally significant structures which are a substantial aesthetic amenity to the city as well as valuable cultural resources. The Commission agreed to maintain a liaison with the Landmarks Committee, and hoped to get more information on the Committee and its operations in the future. Though the Commission had no specific objection to the proposed by-laws, they did feel that a question of representation of the Commission 's views should be considered as a part of the final document. By no means did the Commission feel that a relationship between the Fine Arts Commission and the Landmarks Committee should endanger either group's objectivity. Exhibit A.

d. "Washington Architecture, 1791-1861" The Secretary showed the members a copy of this newly published book by Daniel D.Reiff, the former Assistant Secretary. He stated that the book would be sent to them all and had been several years in being published by the Government Printing Office. Tracing the development of Washington Architecture through the Civil War, the book had been conceived and developed in conjunction with former Chairman Walton. The book is a part of the Commission's continuing study of the architecture and development of the City of Washington including the new completed survey of Washington's bridges and the partly completed study of early 20th century architecture along Massachussets Avenue.

e. Additional Parking Spaces for the Treasury Building. The Secretary presented two drawings and several photos of a proposed parking apron addition on the southwest corner of the Treasury Building. This parking would serve the Secretary of the Treasury's personal parking area. The proposal was not fully detailed as to landscaping nor proposed fence treatment. The Commission felt that this particular location, which is across the street from the main visitor's entrance to the White House, was ill-suited to a make-shift parking arrangement. The members suggested the parking be located elsewhere and a line of magnolia trees which had been removed for other construction should be replaced to restore the line of the base planting for this very important historic and visable building. Exhibit B.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

a. General Services Administration. Bicentennial Exhibition Center. Department of Commerce - proposed design. The Secretary presented a perspective and a model showing the north front of the Commerce Building at Fifteen and H Streets, N.W. The proposal was to remove the middle three windows and replace them with doors to a special exhibit space. As shown the proposal had three large arched openings, matching those adjacent, with recessed doors and a row of flags above. Removing sash and building a shallow arcaded entrance could only add interest to this somewhat bland facade facing the proposed National Square. Mr. Roche suggested that the ceiling of the arcade be flat in place of the arched ceiling shown

on the perspective. The Chairman felt that an interview with the project representatives would not be necessary later in the day and their appearance was cancelled.

b. Smithsonian Institution, National Zoological Park - Master Plan Proposed Design, Faulkner, Fryer & Vanderpool, Architects. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model of the proposed Master Plan for the National Zoo. This scheme was a refinement, incorporating previous Commission suggestions, of a preliminary design seen in November, 1971. The concept of a naturalistic, non-architectural park with minimal visual barriers wasdeveloped with curving brown asphalt brick lined walks, some free-standing cages and many moated exhibits. Since the previous presentation, the plan excluded several bridge entrances to the park and had eliminated a large structure built over the existing zoo entrance. A large 1,500 car parking structure was still partly buried into the side of the hill on the zoo's north side. The Assistant Secretary suggested that the main walk, the Olmsted Walk, had seemed a bit discontinuous and unlike the intended main circulation spine and that the rectangular paving divisions shown seemed overly formalized for the basic natural effect that the design was striving for. The Commission examined the drawings and the model stating that they found the design quite good, but did question the treatment of the Connecticut Avenue entrance and the location and the need for the parking garage. The Commission felt that the animal exhibits were reasonable and in line with current accepted good practice, but that the material presented was far too schematic to be judged. Mr. Bunshaft suggested that individual designs be submitted as they developed for the individual portions of the zoo buildings. Further action and discussion were withheld pending a lunch-time tour of the zoo and an interview with the project representatives.

c. D. C. Redevelopment Land Agency, Brookland Enterprises Restaurant, Maine Avenue, S.W., McDonald, Williams & Marshall, Architects. The Secretary presented drawings and a model of this waterfront banquet-restaruant facility saying that it had been presented and not considered at the previous meeting because the Redevelopment Land Agency stated that it was not in conformance with the area plan. The difficulties in the plan had been accommodated and now the scheme was being presented with the full approval of the RLA and was in conformance with the master paln, the architectural style of the waterfront and the height requirements of the immediate area. The Commission had no objection to the design of the building and approved it. A letter to this effect was sent to RLA. Exhibit C.

d. D. C. Government, Department of General Services

1. Kennilworth Recreation Center, Near Kennilworth Aquatic Gardens. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model to the Commission of this cast-in-place concrete recreation building to be located on reclaimed land at the old Kennilworth Dump site, The building would have sone community facilities, a gym and outdoor pool with dressing rooms. The members felt that the design solution was simple and reasonable for its location and use. They approved it and confirmed this with a letter to the D. C. Government. Exhibit D.

2. Washington Technical Institute - Master Plan and Phase One Structures, Connecticut And Van Ness, N.W. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings, a model and booklets on the design for this 8,000 student facility for

teaching everything from fashion design to auto repair. To be located on part of the site of the former Bureau of Standards, most parts of the natural landscape now exposed would be retained with little tree removal and maximum buffering of the community. The series of large low buildings would be connected by escalators and large paved plazas. Thirty foot bay buildings would be of poured-in-place concrete and placed on top of a multi-floored series of parking decks. Primary access to the site would be by bus and subway from the Connecticut Avenue side of the site. Phase One of the construction would be made up of the three buildings on the corner of Connecticut and Van Ness. Mr. Stone stated that he had examined this site carefully in connection with a previous proposal and felt that the design was a reasonable one. The Commission approved both the Master Plan and Phase One proposals. The Chairman suggested that the interview with project representatives be cancelled. A letter giving the Commission approvals was sent to the D.C. Government. Exhibit E.

e. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint. First United States International Transportation Exposition (TRANSPO 72) Commemorative Medal. Proposed design. The Secretary presented drawings and referred to the submitting letter on this design for a souvenir medal, explaining that time had not permitted the presentation of the design prior to the actual manufacture of the medal. A sample of the design was passed to the members who found the medal a disgrace. The Chairman suggested that the Secretary of the Treasury be directly contacted and told of the situation which permitted asking the Commission's advice after the fact. Design advice has usually not been taken while the quality and design of medals is slipping to a deplorable state. The letter would suggest that if further submissions were to be made to the Commission the advice should be taken with some seriousness; otherwise it would be more reasonable to stop submitting material for review. Exhibit F.

f. Department of the Army, Auto Repair Shop, Fort Myer, proposed design, Saunders, Pearson, Appleton & Partners, Architects. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model of this utilitarian sloping roof brick structure. The building would be at the western end of the post and a deviation from the master plan previously approved by the Commission of Fine Arts. The building to house auto repairs and auto-hobby activities was approved by the Commission, with the recommendation the Master Plan as now being developed would be presented in the future. Exhibit G.

g. Department of the Navy, Chapel, Bolling-Anacostia Air Force Base. Proposed design. Sulton and Campbell, Architects. The Secretary presented drawings for this one floor brick chapel and educational facility to be prominently located on this military base which is highly visible from across the Potomac. The design consisted of a single mass with a small bell tower protrusion and a shed roof. The Secretary stated that the chapel was located on the same part of the base as was shown on the approved master plan, but that the master plan was now in the process of being restudied and some of the original Vicent Kling features wereto be obliterated. Mr. Bunshaft stated that the Kling plan had been very good, carefully thought out, and enthusiastically supported by the Commission of Fine Arts. Mr. Atherton stated that those buildings now erected by the Kling Plan were of very high quality. The Commission studied the drawings before them and felt that the chapel design was both inadequate as a base focal point and totally out of keeping with the recent Kling buildings on the base. The Chairman suggested that

the design be disapproved with the proviso that a subsequent design be developed in harmony with the architectural character of the Kling buildings and the new master plan. Further comment was withheld until an interview with project representatives in the afternoon.

h. Department of Defense, The National War College, Air Force Memorial, Replacement, Fort McNair, S.W., Washington. The Assistant Secretary showed a drawing and model to the Commission of a three-bladed propeller with a commemorative plaque to be located next to the entrance of the Main War College Building. A photograph of the existing memorial, a large bomb, indicated the proposed location. The Post Commander felt that the propeller would be a more constructive representation of the Air Force. The Commission had no specific objection to the replacement proposed, but the Chairman suggested that the propeller be placed in an upright position with one blade touching the ground and two up in the air and concealed supports. The Commission agreed with this suggestion and a letter was sent to the Commandant of Fort McNair so stating. Exhibit H.

i. D. C. Government, Department of Economic Development

a. Shipstead-Luce Act

1. Appendix I, approved Exhibit I.

2. S. L. 72-48, 2700-2715 Unicorn Lane, N.W. Two groups of attached houses. Proposed design. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings showing a series of eclectic"Colonial-Georgian" brick two-floor town houses to be located in a plot of ground next to Rock Creek Park. The proposed town-houses were not in conformance with the existing single family detached zoning in the area. The Commission generally felt that the design of the houses was not distinguished, Mr. Stone found the site plan stiff and too tight with inadequate parking. The Chairman suggested that this project was not in conformance with zoning and should not be considered by the Commission of Fine Arts until the legality of the proposal was established. The Commission concurred and that action was transmitted to the Chief of the Permit Branch. Exhibit J.

b. Old Georgetown Act.

1. Appendix II, Approved. Exhibit K.

2. O.G. 72-173, 1010-1015 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., 8-Storied Brick Office Building. Proposed changes in design. The Secretary presented drawings and a model of the proposed Dodge Center office and shopping complex for the Georgetown waterfront. The project had been previously approved by the Commission of Fine Arts and was being presented because of a few architectural changes and the reduction of the mass at the rear of the building. The Secretary pointed out that the Georgetown citizens were opposed to the project on the basis of size, pending the completion of the present Georgetown waterfront study. He also told the Commission that the Zoning Commission through emergency power had rezoned the waterfront to R-4 for 120 days, to permit examination of the final concultant's waterfront study. Further the Secretary had discussed the project's status with the Zoning Administrator and a representative of the Corporation Council of the District Government and been advised that the temporary zoning

change had no effect on the Commission of Fine Arts review of the proposed design. After some discussion the Chairman called for a vote and found a majority in favor of not acting on the design until the legal questions were settled. The Commission's position was that this would be consistent with other actions the Commission had taken of not considering a project until zoning and master planning questions were settled, within the submitting agencies. Exhibit L.

j. D. C. Zoning Commission, Draft Amendments to Sign Regulations. The Secretary presented a draft report to the Commission on a zoning proposal which stated that present District of Columbia sign regulations were among the best in the country and then recommended certain discretionary powers and an advisory board to control and review sign applications and exceptions in areas not now administered by the Commission of Fine Arts with the interest of aesthetic amenities. The Commission agreed with the Secretary that the proposal seemed inadequate and would be virtually impossible to administer. A letter was sent listing the Commission's questions. Exhibit M.

1. Lunch. The Chairman recessed the Commission for lunch and a driving tour of the National Zoo, The North front of the Commerce Building and the west front of the Treasury Building.

III. INTERVIEWS

Interviews with the following project representatives were cancelled: General Services Administration for the Bicentennial Exhibition Center; D.C. Redevelopment Land Agency for the Brookland Enterprises Restaurant; D. C. Department of General Services for the Kennilworth Recreation Center and the Washington Technical Institute; Department of the Army for the Auto Repair Shop at Fort Myer; and the D. C. Department of Economic Development for the Dodge Center and the Unicorn Lane Townhouses.

2:30 a. Department of the Navy, Chapel, Bolling-Anacostia Air Force Base. Proposed Design. The project was represented by Mr. Robert C. Lose of the Navy and Mr. Leroy Campbell, the architect. The Chairman recognized Mr. Lose and conveyed the Commission's disapproval of the design to him, stating that the Commission would suggest redesign in close harmony with the architectural character of the Kling buildings and in the context of the revised master plan. Mr. Lose said that these comments would be accommodated. A letter was authorized to be sent to the Navy conveying the Commission's action. Exhibit N.

2:40 b. Smithsonian Institution, National Zoological Park, Master Plan. Proposed design. The project was represented by Dr. Reed, Norman Mellun and Frank Maloney of the Zoo; Mr. Brooks of the Smithsonian; Lester Collins, the landscape consultant; and Messrs. Faulkner, Collins and Ordway from the architectural firm of Faulkner, Fryer and VanderPool. Dr. Reed introduced the representatives and designated Mr. Avery Faulkner as spokesman for the project. The Chairman stated that the Commission was reviewing only the Master Plan at this point. He asked Mr. Faulkner to make a brief statement describing the scope of the project and the consultant teams' basic concepts. Mr. Faulkner described the efforts at creating a non-architectural solution with a park-like setting for naturalexhibits and indicated that all exhibit techniques were in h armony with the zoo administration. The Chairman indicated that the Commission still had

questions about the design of the Connecticut Avenue entrance and the size and bulk of the parking structure on the north side of the park. After explanation, the Commission dropped the objection to the entrance concept. The Chairman also indicated that much more detail would be necessary before the Commission would be able to review specific exhibits shown were for the purpose of demonstrating the depth of the master planning process and that details of individual elements would be presented to the Commission as they were developed. Several more questions were asked about the parking structure and Mr. Faulkner responded with the comment that the parking decks would have four and a half foot high parapets to screen the cars from the park and that the planting areas were substantial to support a tree cover for the parking decks. In general, the answers given by Mr. Faulkner to the Commission's fears were satisfactory. Mr. Bunshaft mentioned to the Chairman that the Commission had failed to tell the project representatives that they liked the master plan and thought it was quite good and was sensitively handled. The Commission concurred and a letter was authorized to be sent to the Smithsonian suggesting that further study be given to the individual buildings, walks and graphics, while commending the efforts of the Master Planners. Exhibit O.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3.00 p.m.

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Francis D. Lethbridge, Chairman
Joint Committee on Landmarks
Keyes, Lethbridge and Condon
1320 19th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

At its July 12th meeting, the Commission of Fine Arts examined the proposed By-Laws of the Joint Committee on Landmarks. We endorse this effort, particularly since our concern in the appearance of Washington is intimately connected with the preservation of historic monuments.

I hope very much that you might join the Commission briefly at its next meeting on September 20th to discuss our mutual relationship. At that time we would like to have a general discussion including the following:

- Approval by the Commission of Fine Arts of all new members appointed to the Landmarks Committee.
- Representation of the Commission of Fine Arts on the Landmarks Committee by a non-voting, ex-officio member. This is a logical connection between the Landmarks function in the District of Columbia and this Commission's statutory obligation to administer the Old Georgetown Act and survey historic buildings.
- Placement of the Commission of Fine Arts Members on the Landmarks Committee mailing list.

We feel that maintaining an effective Landmarks Committee will be a great asset to the city. It will also form an important cultural liaison between its sponsors, the Commission of Fine Arts, the National Capital Planning Commission and the District of Columbia Government.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

copies to: Hon. Walter Washington
Hon. Ben Reifel

Exhibit A.

August 1, 1972

Mr. James E. Sorg
Acting Director
Design and Construction Division
P.B.S. - G.S.A.
19th and F Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Mr. Sorg:

This is to confirm the Commission's action on 12 July regarding the parking apron on the southwest corner of the Treasury Building.

The existing entranceway is already not very attractive, and to enlarge it by paving over an even larger area would be unacceptable. The location of this entrance is directly across the street from the principal visitors' entrance to the White House.

The Commission made a first-hand inspection of the site, and believes that in the proposed area, the level of the grass plot should be raised to just under the level of the retaining curb, and that in addition to grass, planting should be placed there, ideally replacing the two magnolia trees that were there until recently.

The Commission was sympathetic to the desire for additional parking area, and hopes that perhaps some solution on the lower grade in the area immediately north of the entranceway might be found.

We will be happy to consult with you further on the plans as they are developed.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

cc: Mr. Walter A. Meisen

Exhibit B.

July 18, 1972

Dear Mr. Mister:

The Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting of July 12 reviewed the design for the Brookland Enterprises Restaurant on Maine Avenue, S.W. The design is approved.

It should be noted that working drawings will have to be cleared with the Commission prior to the issuance of a building permit.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Melvin A. Mister
Executive Director
D.C. Redevelopment Land Agency
1325 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit C.

July 18, 1972

Dear Mr. Rohwer:

This is to confirm our approval of the Kenilworth Parkside Recreation Center design that was presented at the Commission's meeting of July 12. We look forward to seeing an adequate landscape plan presented for review.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. W. Dan Rohwer
Architect-Engineer Liaison Officer
D.C. Department of General Services
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Exhibit D.

August 2, 1972

Mr. W. Dan Rohwer
D. C. Department General Services
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Rohwer:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved preliminary designs for the Master Plan of Phase One development of the Washington Technical Institute at its July 12th meeting. We look forward to seeing more comprehensive designs and materials as they are selected.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

cc: Mr. William K. Lawson

Exhibit E.

31 July 1972

Dear Miss Brooks:

The Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on 12 July considered the design for the First United States International Transportation Exposition Commemorative Medal.

The Commission sees no reason to comment on the design, since the medal had already been struck at the time the Commission was asked to review it.

I believe it would be helpful if we could discuss sometime soon the entire matter of medallic design, and more particularly, the Commission's role in relation to the Bureau of the Mint.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Miss Mary Brooks
Director of the Mint
The Department of the Treasury
Washington, D.C. 20220

Exhibit F.

July 18, 1972

Dear Mr. Resta:

The Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting of July 12 reviewed plans for the Auto-Craft Shop at Fort Myer. The design was approved.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. R. H. Resta
Chief, Engineering Division
Department of the Army
Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, Maryland 21203

Exhibit G.

September 8, 1972

Lieutenant General John B. McPherson, U.S.A.F.
Commandant
The National War College
Washington, D.C. 20315

Dear General McPherson:

At its July 12th meeting the Commission of Fine Arts considered designs for erecting propellors in place of the large aerial bombs now located in front of the College building. Though the Commission concurs with this proposal we would make several suggestions which you might incorporate in your final designs: a) that the suspension or brackets for the propellors be concealed in planting as much as possible, b) that the propellor be erected upright with only one blade going to the ground, height permitting.

If we can be of further service to you in your efforts please call on us.

Sincerely yours,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Exhibit H.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON SHIPSTEAD-LUCE APPLICATIONS 12 July 1972

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
72-46	2510 Rock Creek Dr., N.W. Lawrence N. Brandt	Single family residence.
ACTION: Issue permit. Recm for Standard Old Virginia Brick #P-24. 5/30/72.		
47	601 N. Hamp. Ave., NW Peoples Life Ins. Co.	Cast aluminum ltrs for sign.
ACTION: Do not issue. Advertising not recm because of close proximity to the Kennedy Ctr. Bldg. already significantly identified. 6/7/72		

Exhibit I.

14 July 1972

To: Chief, Permit Branch

The Commission of Fine Arts considered at its meeting on July 12, 1972 the Shipstead-Luce 72-48 application to erect two groups of attached houses, thirteen in all, at 2700-2715 Unicorn Lane, N.W. (Square 2343). The site and the surrounding propprty are presently zoned R-1-A, which limits development to single family detached dwellings. Thus the plans accompanying the application are not in conformance with existing zoning.

Action: Since the zoning for this site will essentially determine the character of the proposed development, the Commission of Fine Arts recommends that the zoning status of the site be resolved prior to review by the Commission regarding the architectural design.

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Exhibit J.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON OLD GEORGETOWN ACT APPLICATIONS 12 July 1972

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
72-151	1055 Thomas Jefferson St., N.W. Georgetown-Inland North Corp.	Office building w/ancillary retail
ACTION: Recm as a preliminary design. Rqst subm of working dwgs and samples of visible materials for review prior to issuance of permit. 5/30/72		
152	2903 Q St., NW Alvara Garcia Pena	Install balcony and prefabricated fireplace enclosure including flue at rear of bldg.
AcTION: Issue permit. Recm flue stack be painted black. 5/11/72		
153	3301 M St., NW Williams Chevrolet	1 s/f internally lighted stencil cut duranodic bronze sign w/white plex. ltrs on 2 poles.
ACTION: Issue permit. 5/11/72		
154	3800 Reservoir Rd, NW Georgetown U.	Addn to existing university hospital to be known as the Concentrated Care Hospital.
ACTION: Recm for permit. Rqst sample brick panel be erected on site for approval of exterior material, color and texture. 5/30/72		
155	3700 Reservoir Rd., NW Georgetown U.	Exterior sign and lighting for G. U. Hospital and Medical Center.
ACTION: Issue permits for signs and lights. 5/30/72		
156	3345 M St., N.W. Spenser Diamond	Changes in front facade of two adjacent bldgs., both comprising Eagle Wine and Cheese Store.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend restudy w/fewer bays and less aluminum. Suggest conference w/Comm staff or board. 5/30/72		
157	3405-23 M St., NW John Snyder & Sam Levy	Remodel existing fronts as per plan & remove bays on first floor.
ACTION: Do not issue. Working dwgs do not conform w/proportions previously approved. Do not recm brick panels under window; these should be wood. Show windows have become squat in working dwgs by aligning door and window heads at transom line. Recm using uniform show window glass height to keep the vertical effect of these windows on perspective. Sug conference w/Commission staff. 5/30/72		

Exhibit K.

158 3021 Q St., NW. — Condensing Unit on Roof
E.A. Baker
ACTION: Issue Permit. 5/30/72

159 3301 M St., N.W. — Sign
Williams Used Cars
ACTION: Do not issue. No objection to concept of sign, nor materials. Suggest upper case letters only. Sign should be limited to 25 square feet. Submit plan showing location of sign in relation to building line, etc. Proposed lighting not recommended. See building code. 6/7/72

160 1000 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. — New office building and commercial building.
Maloney Concrete Co.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Request addl information including a written explanation of all proposed exterior changes made since preliminary approval. Request model at same scale and character as previous one for comparative purposes. No objection to material samples submitted. 6/7/72

161 1415 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. — New entrance door and sidelights; new canvas awnings.
Thomas and Miriam Crocker
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Upper awning flanges not recm. Door not recm. 6/7/72

162 1214 28th St., N.W. — New Masonry opening, matching existing (new doors) new 'mansard' roof.
Arthur Cotton Moore
ACTION: Do not issue permit. No objection to concept. Request street elevation showing all elements of new construction in relation to neighboring cornices. 6/7/72

163 1527 26th St., N.W. — Build 8'4" addn to rear of house.
William Tedard
ACTION: Issue permit. 7/7/72

164 1400 35th St., N.W. — Steel reinforced concrete slab in side yard at left corner of house on grade.
Joseph Smith
ACTION: Issue permit. 7/6/72

166 1100 29th St., N.W. — Parking shed 4'x3'x8' 2 windows 1 door
Rorke Mgt. Ent. Inc.
ACTION: Issue permit. 7/6/72

167 1100 29th St., N.W. — Banner 6'x4' between 2 poles 13' high off ground w/ropes
Rorke Mgt. Ent. Inc. — pulleys and lights.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Sign, size, remote location and type not recommended. 7/6/72

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168 3405-23 M St., NW. — Remodel existing fronts as per plan.
John Snyder & Sam Levy
ACTION: Issue permit. Suggest panels below show windows be recessed behind posts an inch or two. 7/6/72

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169 3618 Prospect St., NW. — Three story addn on rear & mezzanine & attic addn on top.
H.S. Bogan
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Rqst addl info incl photos and/or dwgs showing relationship of proposed work to adjacent houses. Rqst corrected dwgs to show party wall changes, etc. No obj to concept. 7/6/72

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170 1415 Wisc. Ave., N.W. — New ent door & side light; new canvas awnings; paint
Thomas E. Crocker & Miriam Crocker — existing brick front.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. No obj to awnings, provided that material sample is subm and approved. Door design not recm; sug retention of exist. door. 7/6/72

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171 1415 Wisc. Ave., N.W. — New ext. in back of exist bldgs; interior alterations &
Richard Liebeskind — & repairs of exist. bldg.
ACTION: Issue permit. 7/6/72

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172 3338 M St., N.W. — Alteration & repairs to exist. restaurant.
Louis Weinstein
ACTION: Do not issue permit for new entrance. No objection to interior work or concept. Rqst addl information on millwork to surround door and transoms for confirmation. 7/6/72

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173 1214 28th St., N.W. — Supplemental information on mechanical equipment for
Arthur Moore — proposed addn.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. See action 72-162. Show relationship of proposal to adjacent cornices and roof pitch showing mansard profile. 7/6/72

73-2 1660 33d St., N.W. — Replace basement window same size and style as old one.
Chilld Inv. Inc. — Repair first flr steps and basement wall and steps in

stairway. Walls are not straight. To be covered w/red Georgetown brick.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recm retaining railing. Sug repair of concrete without using brick.
7/6/72

14 July 1972

To: Chief, Permit Branch

The Commission of Fine Arts considered at its meeting on July 12, 1972 the Old Georgetown 72-173 application to erect an office building with commercial facilities at 1010-1014 Wisconsin Ave., N.W. The Commission is aware that Zoning Commission Order #48, dated June 29, 1972, has effected a rezoning of the site under consideration from M to R-4. Thus the plans accompanying the application are not in conformance with existing zoning.

Action: Since the zoning for this site will determine the character of the proposed development, the Commission of Fine Arts recommends that the zoning status of the site be resolved prior to further review by the Commission regarding the architectural design.

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Exhibit L.

August 21, 1972

Dear Mr. Nelson :

Reference is made to application O.G. No. 73-11 for design review of the Dodge Center Office Building at 1010-1014 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. This application was received on July 24 and is identical to O.G. 72-173, which was considered at the Commission meeting on July 12.

As part of the deliberation of the July 12 meeting, it was pointed out that major revisions in development conditions of the site had been effected by Zoning Commission order #48, dated June 29, 1972, which changed the CM2 and M Zones to R-4 for a period of 120 days.

Since plans for an 8-story office building were obviously not in conformance with the new zoning requirements, the Commission returned the application with the recommendation that zoning status for this particular site be resolved prior to any further review of the design by the Commission of Fine Arts (see action: OG 72-173)dated and returned to Permit Office 14 July 1972).

Also at the July 12 meeting there was considerable attention given to the architectural revisions which had been made since the Commission had originally approved preliminary designs in September 1971. Note should here be made that in giving approval at that time the Commission thought the architectural design was of considerable merit, and that the owners ofthe property were to be credited for retaining and restoring the historic structures presently on the site. It was the majority view of the Commission that on balance, the changes, which were relatively detailed in nature, tended to improve the overall design.

Accompanying the application presently under consideration is opinion of the D.C. Corporation Counsel's office, stating that because original designs had been filed prior to change in zoning to R-4, the owners had the right to proceed with the processing of plans and so instructed the permit office.

It is in the light of these findings, together with the Commission's

prior approval of the design and its favorable opinion on the revisions, that approval of pending application is recommended, contingent on the permissible zoning envelope of the site to remain as when originally filed.

This should not be construed as endorsement by the Commission of Fine Arts of present density and height limitations as guidelines for the future development of the entire Georgetown Waterfront. The Commission's own views on the matter, as well as the preliminary findings of the Georgetown Planning group, indicate a need for rezoning much of the Georgetown Waterfront if the historic district is to be reasonably developed.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. John R. Nelson
Chief, Permit Branch
Department of Economic Development
District of Columbia Government
Washington, D.C.

July 18, 1972

Dear Mr. Hatton:

The Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting of July 12 reviewed the draft amendments to the sign regulations for the District of Columbia. We are happy to see that a design review board is contemplated for the whole of the District of Columbia. The structure of this organization and the method of review could stand a bit more study in our opinion. It would be a real mistake, in our experience, to frame any kind of design review in discretionary terms. While this may seem valuable and needed on the face of the problem, it is almost impossible to administer.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Arthur B. Hatton
Executive Director
D.C. Zoning Commission
District Building
14th and E.Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit M.

July 18, 1972

Dear Commander Boothe:

The Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting of July 12 revieved the design for the chapel at Bolling-Anacostia Air Force Base. It is our understanding that the Master Plan developed by Vincent Kling has been subject to change and that there are new designs.

Before considering in detail the design of the chapel, the Commission would like to see the new plans so that the chapel can be put in proper perspective.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Lt. Commander Boothe
Department of the Navy
Chesapeake Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Building 57, Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20390

Exhibit N.

20 July 1972

Dear Dr. Reed:

I am glad to report the Commission of Fine Arts approval of the revised Master Plan for the National Zoo that was reviewed at our meeting on July 12.

Most of the Commission's questions that arose from the first presentation appear to be answered, especially those regarding the appearance of the parking decks terraced along the north side of the access road. With adequate landscaping and parapets, the impact of these decks will be considerably less than was originally supposed.

The design for the Connecticut Avenue pedestrian entrance still poses a problem however. It lacks a sense of openness and invitation, and is restricted and unnecessarily severe in its architectural treatment. A design reflecting the informality of the spaces and walks beyond the entrance would appear to be a more appropriate solution. It might also be good to extend the continuity of the Olmsted Walk to a greater extent.

Apart from this detail, I would like to emphasize the overall quality of the plan. The extension of the exhibit areas along the low ridge of the site, the emphasis on the natural landscape features, and the retention of the essential spirit of the original plan are all noteworthy and commendable and very much to the credit of the architects.

The many individual exhibits could not be studied in any detail in such a short time. While the basic concepts of the displays appear correct, that is - the diminishing of the usual visual barriers between the animals and the viewer, the importance of detail cannot be underestimated. The design of hand rails, fencing, gates, railings and similar elements are all critical to the success of each display. We are sure these can be carefully studied as they are developed for final presentation to the Commission.

One final note - the graphics design did not arouse particular enthusiasm among the members. This is an item that can be considered on a more immediate basis and may even fit the framework of current funds. We would hope a review of this could be undertaken as soon as possible.

Exhibit O.

I'm sure you will agree that the present signing of exhibits and other graphic elements is far from adequate.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for 20 September and we would be happy to meet with you then.

Sincerely yours,

A. Carter Brown
Chairman

Doctor Theodore H. Reed
Director
National Zoological Park
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C.

August 16, 1972

Dear Mr. Airis:

During its July 12th meeting, the Commission of Fine Arts crossed the Taft Bridge while examining parts of Rock Creek Park and Connecticut Avenue. As the Taft Bridge is one of Washington's oldest and most dramatic bridges, the neutral green paint on the iron work somehow falls flat. Our suggestion would be painting the iron gloss black and the eagles on the lamp posts gold.

It is this type of special feature that can be an asset to the appearance of Washington. We realize that random suggestions call dollars to mind, but it could be considered as part of the regular maintenance schedule for the city's aesthetic advantage.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Thomas F. Airis, Director
District of Columbia Department
of Highways and Traffic
Room 508, Presidential Building
415 12th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20004

JCB:flm

August 1, 1972

Mr. Robert P. Duckworth
Assistant Director
Planning and Relocation
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Washington Area Office,
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW.,
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Mr. Duckworth:

The Commission of Fine Arts Staff has had an opportunity to study the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Downtown Washington Urban Renewal Area, Project No. A-1-1. Though the Commission would normally respond to specific design or planning proposals, we do appreciate this chance to comment on some of the existing design potential in the downtown and to indicate our availability to assist you in the future as specific proposals are developed.

Our interest in the Downtown comes not only from its own potential, but as it relates to a number of adjacent facilities which the Commission has taken a long term advisory role in: such as Judiciary Square, Pennsylvania Avenue, Federal Triangle, White House-Lafayette Square, and the potentialoof the Convention-Sports Center, Federal City College, etc. This variety of perimeter development makes a close coordination directly important to the aesthetic success of downtown Washington.

Aside from including design review in the overall development of Downtown, it would be advisable to specifically include reference to the services of the Joint Committee on Landmarks with respect to the many historic and architecturally interesting features now existing in the Downtown. Though there are many such listings on the D.C. Landmarks List, some of which are also on the National Register, there are many physical and cultural amentities which we would be interested in seeing developed in the long range scheme. These would obviously include settings for the National Portrait Gallery, Ford's Theatre, Chinatown, Mr. Vernon Square and the 19th Century

commercial facades lining 7th Street from Pennsylvania Avenue to Mt. Vernon Square. These items along with the perimeter schemes form several logical patterns and visual ties that can potentially form a continuity of historic environments which provide a framework for good new development.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement goes into the Metro and trafficssituation in Downtown, but perhaps could provide some mention of bicycle lanes and segregated surface lanes for buses or mini-buses.

Sincerely yours,

Charles A. Atherton
Secretary

September 8, 1972

Mr. Konrad G. Kuchel
The American Federation of Arts
41 East 65th Street
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Mr. Kuchel:

We are happy to participate in the exhibition OLMSTED/U.S.A. jointly sponsored by the National Gallery and the American Federation of Arts.

The material will be forwarded to the packers through NGA, so we deleted that portion of the loan agreement.

For purposes of insurance, value of material is estimated at $1,100.

I also understand that you talked to Mr. Jennings of this office and indicated normal credit procedures would be followed, and that the Commission would be given the negatives after the exhibition is over.

I'll assume this is acceptable to you unless I hear otherwise.

We look forward to seeing the exhibit.

Sincerely yours,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

September 8, 1972

Mr. Bill Hart
Federal - D.C. Bicentennial
Coordinator for the President
Room 5141
18th and F Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Mr. Hart:

I regret the Commission has been unable to report to you, as yet, on our programs for the Bicentennial. Our last meeting was on 12 July and the next not till 20 September, so it has not been possible to discuss this matter with the members at any length.

In the meantime, however, I can give you some preliminary thinking at the staff level.

The Commission, as you probably know, is the oldest planning agency in Washington, having been established in 1910, but it dates back even farther than that since it was nearly one and the same as the Senate Park Commission of 1901, better known as the McMillan Commission which laid the foundation s for monumental Washington as we know it today. Since this Commission was established its principal mission has been the implementation of those plans, and the continuing preseveration and enchancement of the aesthetic values that are inherent to the beauty of Washington.

So, obviously, there is quite a story to tell.

Over the years the Commission has collected an extensive amount of material, photographs, drawings and models, all of which could lend itself to an excellent exhibition.

In such an endeavor, it would seem appropriate that we join with other Federal agencies like the National Park Service, the Planning Commission, the Smithsonian, and possibly private groups such as the Columbia Historical Society and the Kiplinger Foundation - each contributing their best offerings. I think it would be a great mistake for each agency to undertake such a venture independently.

The cost of mounting the exhibition would be impossible for us, since our enabling legislation authorizes funds only for our day-to-day business, which is primarily the rendering of advise to other Federal and District agencies. This automatically excludes, in my opinion, the undertaking of any large scale projects by ourselves.

I hope this will serve to outline our preliminary thinking until such time as the Commission can make a fuller report. This should be forthcoming in much more detail, soon after our meeting on the 20th.

Please call me if you have any questions before then.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Atherton